



PRESS RELEASE

Darien-Woodridge Fire District

7550 Lyman Ave
Darien, IL 60561



Contact Information:

Chief Wayne Messenger 630-910-2200 x303
Deputy Chief David Lambright 630-910-2200 x301 or 630-514-6690 (cell)
Fire Prevention Director Robert Morris 630-910-2207 or 630-514-1693 (cell)

Date: February 16, 2010

For Immediate Release

House Fire

On February 14, at approximately 4:57 PM, a 911 call was received for a possible chimney fire at 5701 Elinor, in unincorporated Downers Grove. Fire crews arrived less than five minutes later and noticed smoke coming from the porch roof, by a fireplace chimney. The fire was quickly extinguished, and the area around the fire was overhauled to make certain that no hidden fires existed.

An investigation revealed that the cap for the fireplace chimney, that attaches to the roof line, was not secure and bird nesting materials had built-up around the pipe. When the fireplace was ignited, the heat from the metal chimney caused the nesting materials to ignite. This in turn ignited the structural roof members of the porch.

There were two occupants home at the time of the fire and they were not displaced. No injuries were reported, and initial damage estimates are placed at \$7,000. Darien-Woodridge fire units were assisted by Lisle-Woodridge, Pleasantview, and Downers Grove Fire Departments.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District would like to remind anyone with fireplaces to have the chimney inspected on a regular basis. This will make certain that no bricks or mortar are loose, and that there is no build-up of combustible materials around the chimney stack.
